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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/603,985	06/25/2003	Michael W. Barrett	D/A3037	3847

25453 7590 05/18/2007  
PATENT DOCUMENTATION CENTER  
XEROX CORPORATION  
100 CLINTON AVE., SOUTH, XEROX SQUARE, 20TH FLOOR  
ROCHESTER, NY 14644

EXAMINER
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WILLIAMS, KIMBERLY A

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2625

MAIL DATE	DELIVERY MODE
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05/18/2007

PAPER

**Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.**

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

<p align="center"><b>Office Action Summary</b></p>	<p><b>Application No.</b></p> <p align="center">10/603,985</p>	<p><b>Applicant(s)</b></p> <p align="center">BARRETT ET AL.</p>	
	<p><b>Examiner</b></p> <p align="center">Kimberly A. Williams</p>	<p><b>Art Unit</b></p> <p align="center">2625</p>	

**-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --**

**Period for Reply**

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

**Status**

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 June 2003.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**.                      2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

**Disposition of Claims**

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-4, 6-8, 11 and 12 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☒ Claim(s) 5, 9 and 10 is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

**Application Papers**

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
     Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).  
     Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

**Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119**

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All    b) ☐ Some \*    c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

**Attachment(s)**

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)          | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413)           |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____                                      |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08)          | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____  | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____                          |

## DETAILED ACTION

### *Claim Objections*

1. Claims 1,2,6-8 and 11 are objected to because of the following informalities: regarding claim 1, in the determining step, "the return message" and "the prepared message" lacks antecedent basis. Regarding claim 2, "the distinguishing step" lacks antecedent basis. Regarding claims 6-8, "the transmitting step" lacks antecedent basis. Regarding claim 11, "the distinguishing step" lacks antecedent basis. Appropriate correction is required.

### *Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102*

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-3,6-8,11 and 12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Eguchi et al. (US 2003/0017666).

Regarding **claim 1**, Eguchi et al. teaches a method for tracking facsimile jobs, comprising the steps of: (a) determining whether the return message (interpreted as an error message) is associated with the prepared message (interpreted as the original image data) that originated at the originating device (the CPU 2 determines that the

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data received does not contain image data; fig. 6, step 52, para 48; fig. 12, steps 202 and 203, paras 68 and 69), and (b) in response to an affirmative determination in step (a), interpreting the return message as an incoming message not intended for printing and processing the return message according to a first predetermined configuration of the originating device (fig. 6, step 56 other processes; fig. 12, steps 208,209); whereby in response to a negative determination in step (b), an incoming message is interpreted as a valid message intended for printing and is processed according to a second predetermined configuration of the originating device (fig. 6, step 54).

Regarding **claim 2**, Eguchi teaches the step of detecting the presence of information indicative of the error condition in the return message (an error e-mail is received that informs the fax of the error; para 48, last sentence).

Regarding **claim 3**, the display (10a) and/or printer(9) reads on the error reporting mechanism.

Regarding **claims 6-8**, the facsimile device (1) has communication capabilities over a PSTN(13) or LAN(14).

Regarding **claims 11 and 12**, the return message is in the form of MDN or DSN (fig. 12, step 202).

### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103***

4. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

5. Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Eguchi et al. in view of well known prior art (MPEP 2144.03).

Eguchi et al. do not specifically disclose that the return message is not printed.

The Examiner takes official notice of the fact that it is known in the art to display an error message only as opposed to printing out the error message because it would be a waste of resources (e.g., consumables). It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to use the display only for the purpose of notifying the user of an error.

#### ***Allowable Subject Matter***

6. Claims 5,9 and 10 objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

#### ***Conclusion***

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Kimberly A. Williams whose telephone number is (571) 272-7471. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday through Friday.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward L. Coles can be reached on (571) 272-7402. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Kimberly A Williams  
Primary Examiner  
Art Unit 2625

KAW  
May 8, 2007